

Message Text

SECRET

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APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

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S/S: SESTEINER

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TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

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FOR AMBASSADOR FROM THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UN, US, IS, PFOR

SUBJECT: ISRAELI REACTION TO SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING

1. I CONSIDER ALLON'S REACTION, AS EXPRESSED IN HIS PUBLIC COMMENT TO YOU AS WELL AS IN HIS MORE DELIBERATE PRIVATE STATEMENT, TO BE TOTALLY UNJUSTIFIED BY THE EVENT, ALL OUT OF PROPORTION IN INTENSITY AND UNACCEPTABLE TO US. I REALIZE THAT ALLON TENDS TO BE HIGHLY EMOTIONAL IN HIS RESPONSES OF THIS SORT, BUT I DO NOT FEEL WE CAN ALLOW HIS BEHAVIOR TO PASS UNREMARKED. YOU SHOULD THEREFORE SEE RABIN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND MAKE THE FOLLOWING POINTS TO HIM:

2. -- THE CONSENSUS STATEMENT WITH WHICH WE ASSOCIATED OURSELVES REFLECTED LONG AND PUBLICLY STATED U.S. POLICY ON THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.

-- WE HAD SUCCEEDED IN CHANGING OR ELIMINATING ENTIRELY THE LANGUAGE WHICH WOULD HAVE PREVENTED OUR JOINING THE SECRET

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CONSENSUS THIS TIME, AND WHICH IF IT HAD BEEN DELETED

FROM THE STATEMENT IN THE MAY SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING
WOULD HAVE MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR US TO JOIN THE CONSENSUS
AT THAT TIME. WE HAD MADE THIS CLEAR TO OTHER COUNCIL
MEMBERS IN MAY.

-- ASIDE FROM THE MERITS OF THE STATEMENT ITSELF, OUR
HAVING ASSOCIATED OURSELVES WITH THE COUNCIL ACTION AT
THIS TIME PUTS US IN A MUCH BETTER POSITION TO KEEP THE
UNDOF RENEWAL QUESTION ON THE TRACKS WHEN IT COMES UP
AT THE END OF NOVEMBER.

-- WHILE THE CONSULTATIONS WERE PROCEEDING IN NEW YORK,
WE REVIEWED WITH THE ISRAELIS OUR POSITION ON THE
PROPOSED CONSENSUS STATEMENT AND INFORMED THEM OF THE
EFFORTS WE WERE MAKING TO SOFTEN THE LANGUAGE. THE
RESPONSE WE RECEIVED WAS AT A RELATIVELY LOW LEVEL AND
GAVE NO INDICATION OF THE INTENSITY OF THE REACTION THAT
FOLLOWED OUR ACTUALLY DOING WHAT WE HAD INDICATED WE WERE
WORKING TOWARD.

-- I CONSIDER FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON'S BEHAVIOR, PAR-
TICULARLY HIS PUBLIC REMARK TO YOU, TO BE UNACCEPTABLE.
I WOULD NOT EXPECT IT FROM THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF ANY
GOVERNMENT, LET ALONE ONE WITH WHICH WE WERE SO CLOSELY
ASSOCIATED AND ON BEHALF OF WHICH WE HAD CONSISTENTLY
EXERTED SUCH GREAT EFFORT.

-- AS THE PRIME MINISTER KNOWS WE HAVE COORDINATED OUR
ACTIONS ON LEBANON METICULOUSLY AND SHARED ALL INFORMATION.
WE HAVE VETOED A NUMBER OF RESOLUTIONS. WE HAVE FOUGHT
AT UNESCO AND ELSEWHERE FOR ISRAELI CONCERNS. BUT WE
MUST HAVE A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF TACTICAL LASSITUDE. AND
WHEN WE DO DIFFER THERE ARE MORE APPROPRIATE WAYS OF
DOING IT THAN A PUBLIC REBUKE TO A US AMBASSADOR OR THE
SAME TONE USED LATER IN THE PRIVATE MEETING.
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